

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-04 OES-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 MCT-01 IO-13 /096 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV: MJHENDERSON:TL
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
-----120719 260217Z /70

P 260051Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134187

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: REPORT OF DETENTION OF BAPTISTS AT KRASNODAR

REF: (A) MOSCOW, 11004, (B) MOSCOW 10539

1. LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH ON MAY 18 REPORTED (FROM STOCKHOLM) THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE HAD BEEN DETAINED BRIEFLY THEN SENT HOME FROM A RELIGIOUS GATHERING AT KRASNODAR ON MAY 9. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, SOME EIGHT HUNDRED HAD COME FROM ALL OVER THE SOVIET UNION TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE AT A REGISTERED CONGREGATION'S CHURCH IN KRASNODAR. THE REPORT ALSO ALLEGES THAT PASTOR JOSEPH BONDARENKO FROM RIGA, TOGETHER WITH TWO OTHER BAPTIST MINISTERS, WAS STILL BEING HELD.

2. DAILY TELEGRAPH STORY, WHICH DEPARTMENT RECEIVED FROM HEW, MAY IF WELL FOUNDED, HAVE A BEARING ON THE CANCELLATION OF THE VISIT OF HEW ADVANCE PARTY TO SOCHI AND
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SUKHUMI (REF A, PARA 4, "DISTURBANCES OF A LOCAL CHARACTER") AND/OR MAY HAVE TO DO WITH THE "MEETING OF BAPTIST YOUTH ORGANIZERS" REPORTED REF B.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME ANY CORROBORATION OF THE NEWS REPORT WHICH EMBASSY MAY BE ABLE TO TURN UP. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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